



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 11 February 2009

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



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- According to Reuters, an oil tanker carrying around \$9 million worth of petroleum products collided with a container vessel off the Dubai coast on Tuesday, setting both vessels on fire and sending up a thick plume of black smoke. (See item [1](#))
- The Associated Press reports that hackers broke into the Federal Aviation Administration's computer system during the week of February 2-6, accessing the names and Social Security numbers of 45,000 employees and retirees. (See item [31](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy; Chemical; Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste; Defense Industrial Base; Dams](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance; Transportation; Postal and Shipping; Information Technology; Communications; Commercial Facilities](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture and Food; Water; Public Health and Healthcare](#)

Federal and State: [Government Facilities; Emergency Services; National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED,
Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *February 10, Reuters* – (International) **Oil tanker in collision and burning off Dubai.** An oil tanker carrying around \$9 million worth of petroleum products was in collision with a container vessel off the Dubai coast on Tuesday, setting both vessels on fire and sending up a thick plume of black smoke. The tanker, called the Kashmir, was built in 1988. It was carrying some 30,000 tons of oil condensates from Iran to the United Arab Emirates port of Jebel Ali, oil industry sources said. The second ship was a container vessel called Sima Buoy, which was leaving the port when the incident took place, ship brokers said. The two vessels collided around seven nautical miles from Jebel Ali port. It was not immediately clear what caused the incident, but one witness said the oil tanker appeared to be badly damaged. Oil industry sources said the fire did not involve

any of Dubai's offshore oil platforms.

Source:

<http://af.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idAFTRE5192KN20090210?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

2. *February 10, New Hampshire Union Leader* – (New Hampshire) **PSNH's estimated ice storm bill: \$75 million.** Restoring power after the ice storm of December 2008 cost Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) an estimated \$75 million, \$50 million of which the utility hopes to recover from customers over time. PSNH released the estimates and an overview of the historic storm on February 9 in a new report, "Record Outage, Record Recovery." The state's largest electric utility, which had more than 322,000 customers without power at peak outage, reported an estimated \$10 million in capital expenses, equipment replacements it intends to recover over time. The \$50 million recovery is an estimate, one ultimately decided before state regulators. PSNH anticipates an insurance payout of \$12 million, according to its 28-page report. PSNH coordinated 1,205 crews, some from as far away as the Midwest and Canada, to help restore power. The company received 408,000 customer calls in 13 days. Crews restrung 105 miles of power cable, replaced more than 780 utility poles, installed 13,600 fuses, and replaced 1,300 transformers, according to the report. PSNH said the storm showed its emergency response plan can be expanded to respond quickly to the most widespread disasters.

Source:

<http://www.unionleader.com/article.aspx?headline=PSNH%27s+estimated+ice+storm+bill%3A+%2475+million&articleId=014030af-0548-4211-92fa-ef55dfa98ed9>

3. *February 10, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **KDHE tries to clarify policy on CO2.** A Kansas agency says carbon dioxide emissions will be a factor in issuing air quality permits only when new power plants are involved. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment issued what it called a "guidance document" on February 9 in hope of clarifying its policy. A department spokeswoman said the document is a response to suggestions that the state's regulatory climate is uncertain. The department has been criticized over the October 2007 denial of an air-quality permit to Sunflower Electric Power Corp. The Hays-based utility wants to build two coal-fired power plants in southwest Kansas. The department's secretary cited potential carbon dioxide emissions in denying the permit.

Source: <http://www.wibw.com/localnews/headlines/39368397.html>

4. *February 10, Reuters* – (California) **BP cites Carson refinery process upset.** BP Plc reported a process upset in an unspecified unit at its 265,000 barrel per day refinery in Carson, California, on Monday, according to a company environmental filing. Personnel were evacuated at the Los Angeles-area refinery unit impacted by the upset, which had resulted in flaring, BP added in the filing with the California Emergency Management Agency.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN1026732520090210>

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Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

5. *February 10, Environmental Protection* – (National) **Nuclear fusion-fission hybrid could destroy waste.** Physicists at the University of Texas at Austin have designed a new system that, when fully developed, would use fusion to eliminate most of the transuranic waste produced by nuclear power plants, according to a January 27 press release. The invention could help combat global warming by making nuclear power cleaner and thus a more viable replacement of carbon-heavy energy sources, such as coal. The idea behind the compact Fusion-Fission Hybrid is that fusion can be used to burn nuclear waste, producing energy, and getting rid of much of the long-lived waste generated by nuclear reactors. Toxic nuclear waste is stored at sites around the United States. Debate surrounds the construction of a large-scale geological storage site at Yucca Mountain in Nevada, which many maintain is costly and dangerous. The storage capacity of Yucca Mountain, which is not expected to open until 2020, is set at 77,000 tons. The amount of nuclear waste generated will exceed this amount by 2010. The physicists' new invention could drastically decrease the need for any additional or expanded geological repositories.

Source: <http://www.eonline.com/articles/70697/>

6. *February 9, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Hanford nuclear power plant goes off line.** Energy Northwest says its nuclear power plant on the Hanford nuclear reservation is shut down for repair. The utility consortium says the Columbia Generating Station should be off the Bonneville Power Administration grid for no more than two days. The plant disconnected on February 8 when monitoring equipment indicated a problem with the steam flow through the main turbine.

Source: http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/6420ap_wa_nuclear_plant.html

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. *February 10, Military.com* – (National) **Army pulled 8,000 armor plates from field.** The Army recalled more than 8,000 bullet-resistant plates late last year for fear that they might not be able to stop the rifle rounds they were designed to defeat — one month before the Army agreed to pull 16,000 more plates after a government investigation cast doubt on their reliability. News of the earlier armor recalls comes on the heels of a Pentagon Inspector General (IG) report that recommended the Army pull more than 16,000 ESAPI plates made by ArmorWorks from the field due to flawed test procedures on the initial designs. The IG report mentioned the 8,018 plate recall deep within its findings, but the Army never made the news public. “Those lots passed,” a Program Executive Office Soldier Sergeant Major said of the 8,000 plates. “Everything was good

with them. Some lots in front of and behind them had failed and were not accepted.” Though results were not available, he said the recalled plates are still being tested at ballistics labs, but so far none have shown signs of failure.

Source: <http://www.military.com/news/article/army-pulled-8000-armor-plates-from-field.html>

8. *February 10, Army Times* – (National) **Tank round guides self to target during test.** An Army Abrams 120mm cannon destroyed a T-72 tank more than 5,000 meters away using a next-generation guided tank round able to find its own way toward a target, service officials said. The December test at Yuma Proving Grounds, Arizona, was staged to prove that the guidance system of the Mid Range Munition (MRM) would work when fired. The MRM has two guidance modes. The first is laser designation, in which the round follows a laser spot generated by some other target seeker to the target, or in so-called offset mode, near the target. The second is with its 3-inch infrared (IR) camera. The guidance system compares the IR images to a target library stored in electronic form. In the December test, the round used only its infrared seeker, the first time it had destroyed a target without laser-guided help, said the deputy product manager for large caliber ammunition at Picatinny Arsenal, New Jersey.
Source: http://www.armytimes.com/news/2009/02/military_tank_round_020909w/
9. *February 9, Aviation Week* – (National) **New cutters have fatigue-life issues.** The U.S. Navy’s Carderock surface warfare center recently reported fatigue-life issues with the first two National Security Cutter (NSC) hulls, forcing the Coast Guard to re-evaluate some of the new ships’ design and potential improvements. The January 30 report found that “the hull girder structure in two areas remains problematic and is not predicted to achieve the 30-year design fatigue life.” The chief of systems integration for the Coast Guard told reporters February 5 that one area of high stress is near the keel, while another is an opening in the strength deck through which engine exhaust passes. The third NSC ship will become a baseline for the next set of ships through number eight. The Coast Guard is reviewing the Carderock report to determine how to address the design issues on the first two NSC’s. Once final design updates for Bertholf and the second NSC, the Waesche, are finalized, the upgrades will be made within the first three to five years of operations.
Source:
http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/HULL020909.xml

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Banking and Finance Sector

10. *February 10, Bradenton Herald* – (Florida) **Bank fraud mastermind arrested.** The accused mastermind of an \$83 million bank-fraud scheme involving land sales in Manatee and Sarasota counties has been arrested in Jordan, a federal prosecutor said on February 9 during the trial of a co-defendant. The defendant, formerly of Sarasota, has since been released on bond, the assistant U.S. attorney said on the opening day of the co-defendant’s trial in Tampa. The assistant U.S. attorney did not say when the

defendant was arrested. The defendant is accused of buying seven parcels for \$43 million, reselling them to the co-defendant and others for \$117 million and helping the buyers obtain \$83 million in bank loans. The co-defendant has pleaded not guilty, while two others have pleaded guilty as part of deals.

Source: <http://www.bradenton.com/business/story/1215889.html>

11. *February 10, Washington Post* – (National) **SEC reaches deal with Madoff.** The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) announced an agreement with a disgraced money manager that could eventually force him to pay a civil fine and return money raised from investors. The partial judgment, which renders permanent a preliminary injunction that froze the money manager's assets after his arrest in December 2008, must be approved by the federal judge overseeing the case. The civil proceeding is separate from the criminal case against the prominent Wall Street figure, who is accused of bilking \$50 billion from investors. The SEC said the defendant agreed to the partial judgment without admitting or denying the allegations in its civil complaint. However, the agreement says the defendant cannot contest the "facts" of the complaint for the purposes of determining his obligation to pay civil fines and restitution — which will be specified later. The SEC says the basic facts of the complaint are that the defendant committed a \$50 billion fraud and told his sons his investment business was a sham.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/02/09/AR2009020903410.html>

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Transportation Sector

12. *February 10, Longmont Times-Call* – (Colorado) **Report: Carburetor icing caused Erie plane crash.** An August plane crash in Erie that left two injured was likely caused when the small craft's carburetor iced up, causing it to lose power, according to a National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) report. The pilot and his 16-year-old grandson were injured when the experimental plane they were in crashed August 5 in a field west of the Erie Municipal Airport. According to the NTSB report dated January 29, the pilot found no problems during the preflight check, and the takeoff was fine. But when the Flynn Van Munk single-engine plane reached 200 feet, the pilot reported a sudden drop in power, and the engine began to run roughly, according to the report. "The airplane became difficult to control, and the pilot experienced four to five deep rolls to angles beyond 60 degrees, and he had difficulty maintaining pitch control," the report reads. The NTSB's probable cause for the crash is listed as icing of the carburetor.

Source: http://www.timescall.com/news_story.asp?ID=14350

13. *February 9, Associated Press* – (National) **American Airlines forced to repack exit slides.** American Airlines crews had to inspect and test the exit slides on about 272 aircraft the week of February 2 after a mechanic discovered a "potential problem" with the way the work had been done, the carrier said Monday. The slides were found to be working on all of American's McDonnell Douglas MD-80 jets, but they had been packed and stowed on the planes using the wrong tool, said a spokesman for the airline.

“There were about 11 rafts that had potential issues, but none failed to inflate,” the spokesman said. The situation came to light when a mechanic notified American and the Federal Aviation Administration under a voluntary program of reporting potential safety issues without fear of retaliation from the airline. The rear slides of the MD-80s must be unfolded, tested, and repacked every 18 to 36 months, but the airline’s crews were doing the work without using a tool designed by the manufacturer to realign parts of the slide. Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D96866V80.htm>

14. *February 9, Aero-News Net* – (New York) **Vermont pilot charged after faking crash.** A pilot pulling a prank was charged last week as a result of his deceitful comments on the radio, faking an accident and disrupting air traffic at Plattsburgh International Airport (PBG). The New York Press Republican says a Burlington resident faces a felony count of second-degree falsely reporting an incident and a misdemeanor count of second-degree aggravated harassment. A Clinton County Sheriff’s Department spokesman said the man radioed that high intensity runway lights had blinded him, causing his plane to veer into a snowbank and flip over. A Cape Air flight on approach to PBG diverted as sheriff’s deputies and emergency crews looked for a wrecked plane, but none could be found. Authorities realized the incident had been a hoax, and that the airplane they were looking for had departed earlier without difficulty. The man’s identity was traced and last week he was charged by deputies. Source: <http://www.aero-news.net/index.cfm?ContentBlockID=9d6b9182-21a9-405b-a58d-8fa3d34b562d>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

15. *February 10, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Suspicious letter at Specter’s office not a danger.** The U.S. Postal Service said a suspicious letter sent to a U.S. Senator’s Pittsburgh office is not dangerous. The letter containing a white powdery substance was received February 9. The office said a staffer opened the letter about noon. Pittsburgh police, the FBI, and a hazardous materials team responded to the call about the powdery substance. The U.S. Postal Service said the substance turned out to be a food product. The Senator’s staff was not evacuated during the three-hour incident. The postal service said the FBI is leading the investigation into the incident. Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/09041/948024-53.stm>
16. *February 9, Ocala Star-Banner* – (Florida) **Hazmat team investigates suspicious powder in envelope.** Marion County School Board officials were briefly evacuated from their offices on February 9 after a secretary opened up an envelope filled with an unknown white powder. The school board secretary opened up the letter, addressed to the school system in care of the school superintendent, and saw the powder, a Marion County Schools spokesman said. The Ocala Fire Rescue HAZMAT team shut off the air conditioner and secured the envelope. The building was evacuated, and the secretary’s desk was bleached, an Ocala Fire Rescue Battalion chief said. The Marion County Health Department will conduct testing to determine what the powder is. Source:

http://www.ocala.com/article/20090209/ARTICLES/902090275/0/NEWS?Title=HAZMAT_team_investigates_suspicious_powder_in_envelope

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Agriculture and Food Sector

17. *February 10, Associated Press* – (National) **U.S. relies on states for food safety inspections.** The U.S. government has increasingly relied on food-safety inspections performed by states, where budgets for inspections in many cases have remained stagnant and where overburdened officials are trained less than their federal counterparts and perform skimpier reviews, an Associated Press (AP) investigation has found. State investigators performed more than half the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) food inspections in 2007, according to an AP analysis of FDA data. That represents a dramatic rise from a decade ago, when FDA investigators performed three out of four of the Federal Government's inspections. Increased inspection responsibilities have not been accompanied by big spending increases in many states responsible for the bulk of the nation's food production. The FDA covers some costs for states to perform inspections. But in Pennsylvania and Ohio, for example, each state's own food safety spending increased only slightly since 2003, less than the rate of inflation; in California and Massachusetts, just barely more than inflation; and in New Jersey, spending has remained about the same. Those are among states with the largest numbers of food-processing plants. The number of federal field food inspectors dropped by more than 400 between 2003 and 2007, according to the FDA's budget. The number of businesses requiring oversight increased by 7,200 between 2003 and 2007, according to the Government Accountability Office. A former FDA deputy commissioner said the FDA does not have enough money to perform its own inspections. But he acknowledges problems with state visits and has urged a dramatic overhaul of federal and state food safety. Some states, such as New York and Florida, earn high praise among food safety experts for conducting professional inspections. And in some cases, state enforcement laws give state officials more authority than the FDA's inspectors have under federal laws.

Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gD1-Tezv6lJOz9hwR0IVu6zTW7xwD968JD8G0>

18. *February 10, USAgNet*– (National) **Lawmakers reintroduce combustible dust bill.** Acting just before the one-year anniversary of the Imperial Sugar mill explosion and fire in Port Wentworth, Ga., three U.S. Representatives have reintroduced a bill that would require the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to issue a regulation to prevent combustible dust explosions. The Worker Protection Against Combustible Dust Explosions and Fires Act, H.R. 849, is similar to a bill put forth by one Representative, a California Democrat who chairs the Education and Labor Committee, in the last Congress. That bill passed the House of Representatives in April 2008 but died in the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. The bill would direct OSHA to issue an interim rule within 90 days and a final rule within 18 months of the bill's enactment. It also would direct OSHA to add combustible dusts to its Hazard Communication standard.

Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=319&yr=2009>

19. *February 10, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Peanut company in salmonella probe shuts 2nd plant.** The peanut company at the center of an investigation into a deadly national salmonella outbreak said on February 10 it has suspended operations at a second processing plant. Peanut Corporation of America said in a statement it was voluntarily suspending operations at its Plainview, Texas, plant while state and federal health officials complete an investigation into procedures and food safety records there. The plant is operated by a subsidiary, Plainview Peanut Co. An Associated Press investigation recently revealed that the Plainview plant, which opened in March 2005, operated uninspected and unlicensed by state health officials until after the company came under investigation in January by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iT8vTstaLqMvAo-47JiLsBYiH3wD968PPHG0>
20. *February 10, Killeen Daily Herald* – (Texas) **Coryell County overflowing with feral hogs.** Coryell County's wild hog population continued to increase in 2008, causing significant damage to many residents' crops and livestock, a judge said at a commissioner's court meeting February 9. According to the 2008 Texas Wildlife Services (TWS) report, \$119,300 worth of damage was reported in Coryell County last year by wildlife, the vast majority of which was by feral hogs. "We strongly believe that the actual crop damage was many times that," the judge said. "That number only includes what damage was actually reported to the county by ranchers." The explosion in the wild hog population is a statewide issue. According to the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), Texas has the largest feral hog population in the United States with nearly two million wild hogs. "Their numbers are continuing to increase because of high reproductive potential and the lack of natural predators," states the TDA Web site. The Texas AgriLife Extension Service estimates \$51.7 million in statewide damage every year. Currently, government trappers legally hunt wild hogs in Coryell County, hoping to reduce the numbers over time. The trappers killed 674 hogs and 220 coyotes in 2008, according to the TWS report. However, the judge said more needs to be done. The commissioner's court discussed buying a night scope as well as regularly using state helicopters to hunt wild hogs in the county. The court will continue to examine how to best resolve the problem, he said.
Source: <http://www.kdhnews.com/news/story.aspx?s=31213>
21. *February 10, CNN* – (Georgia) **FBI raids peanut butter plant suspected in outbreak.** FBI agents on February 9 raided a rural Georgia peanut butter plant suspected as the source of a nationwide salmonella outbreak, a CNN affiliate reported. The Peanut Corporation of America plant in Blakely, Georgia, was sealed off by federal authorities on February 9, WALB reported. The company is accused of knowingly shipping tainted products now linked to nearly 600 illnesses, including eight deaths, in 43 states. The recent outbreak has led to one of the largest food recalls in U.S. history, encompassing more than 1,000 products. The Food and Drug Administration's Office of Criminal Investigations launched a probe of the company on January 30.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2009/CRIME/02/10/peanut.butter.raid/?iref=hpmostpop>

22. *February 10, USAgNet* – (Kansas) **Kansas farmers skeptical of safety of federal bio-lab.** Although he made no promises, the dean of agriculture at Kansas State University told the Kansas Cattlemen’s Convention that he believes a new federal laboratory to study livestock diseases is no threat to their herds. The National Bio and Agro-defense Facility (NBAF) is expected to open on the Kansas State campus in five or six years. Cattlemen are concerned about building a lab that researches many of the most deadly diseases for animals, including foot and mouth disease, and some that could infect humans, such as West Nile virus. No strains that can be passed between humans will be researched at the laboratory. The group plans to take its concerns to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Cattleman also expressed concerns about potential flooding or a possible terrorist attack on the lab. A cattleman of Wamego asked if foot and mouth disease could be stopped, or if such a scenario would lead to stopping cattle from Mexico to the United States. The dean said the NBAF would look at the migration of disease and how to reduce the effects.

Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=324&yr=2009>

23. *February 9, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (Texas) **Exotic Meats USA announces urgent statewide recall of elk tenderloin because it may contain meat derived from an elk confirmed to have chronic wasting disease.** Exotic Meats USA of San Antonio, Texas is initiating a voluntary recall of Elk Tenderloin because it may contain meat derived from an elk confirmed to have Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). The meat with production dates of December 29, 30, and 31, 2008 was purchased from Sierra Meat Company in Reno, Nevada. The infected elk came from Elk Farm LLC in Pine Island, Minnesota and was among animals slaughtered and processed at Noah’s Ark Processors LLC. Currently, it is believed that the prion responsible for causing CWD in deer and elk is not capable of infecting humans who eat deer or elk contaminated with the prion, but the observation of animal-to-human transmission of other prion-mediated diseases, such as bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), has raised a theoretical concern regarding the transmission of CWD from deer or elk to humans. At the present time, FDA believes the risk of becoming ill from eating CWD-positive elk or deer meat is remote.

Source: http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/exoticmeats02_09.html

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Water Sector

24. *February 10, Ionia Sentinel-Standard* – (Michigan) **Vandalism causes Portland sewage release.** Vandals in Portland created problems for local wastewater officials when their actions caused thousands of gallons of raw sewage to be released into the Grand River. “Some tree limbs were tossed inside of a manhole,” said the Portland Wastewater director. As a result of the tree limbs being tossed into the sewage system, this caused sewage to backup and overflow into the Grand River. According to officials from the city, an estimated 13,000 gallons per day of untreated wastewater was released into the river over a period of about two weeks. Officials have already removed the branches, having to chop through eight inches of ice, and the sewage has flown through

the water system down the Grand River. A no-contact warning was not issued for the river, however, the city was required to notify the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, the Ionia County Health Department, and the Ionia Sentinel-Standard for a public notice. As a result of the sewage vandalism, those involved are looking at taking preventative measures to make sure sewage releases do not happen again.

Source: <http://www.sentinel-standard.com/articles/2009/02/10/news/02news.txt>

25. *February 9, Fort Morgan Times* – (Colorado) **New NISP study answers opponents' issues.** A new study shows issues raised by opponents of the proposed Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) are insignificant and should not prevent the large water storage project from being built, according to a news release from the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District. The newly released study by engineering firm Black & Veatch concludes that water quality and treatment issues raised by the city of Fort Collins and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are not significant and can be easily addressed. The study has been provided to the Army Corps of Engineers, the EPA, the Colorado Department of Health and Environment, and other interested agencies, the release said. NISP will increase total organic carbon levels in Horsetooth Reservoir, requiring Fort Collins to invest \$50 million to \$90 million in infrastructure and increasing its operational costs to treat water by \$3 million annually. NISP will cause lower flows in the Poudre River, requiring Fort Collins to spend \$75 million to \$125 million in upgrades to its wastewater treatment plants based on less dilution capability of the river. Contaminated groundwater near Glade Reservoir could possibly co-mingle with Glade water and be delivered to Horsetooth Reservoir or the Poudre River.

Source: <http://www.fortmorgantimes.com/news/2009/feb/09/new-nisp-study-answers-opponents-issues/>

26. *February 9, Water Technology Online* – (Florida) **FL community dumps 76 million gallons a year.** Water authorities recently learned that daily water dumping at Eagle Creek subdivision near Orange County sends more than 76 million gallons a year of treated drinking water to retention ponds. Despite conservation messages they have issued and expected water shortages, authorities cannot stop the waste, according to a February 8 Orlando Sentinel report. The water dumping practice has been in effect since 2003, when a pipeline was extended to supply potable water to 2,200 proposed homes in the gated subdivision. The subdivision currently has about 700 homes. To maintain disinfection levels in the potable water, the system was designed to automatically flush water from the pipeline. Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC) authorities approved the pipeline extension. They discovered the water dumping because the subdivision's retention ponds remained full during record drought conditions. It's estimated that the peak amount of water loss was 600,000 gallons per day. In November, the commission's investigation found the volume was about 432,000 gallons daily, the article said. Automatic valves now release 210,000 gallons of water daily to the retention ponds.

Source: http://watertechnonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=71380

27. *February 9, HeraldNet* – (Washington) **Former Gold Bar worker accused of**

sabotaging wells. A former city employee is accused of using a city credit card to fill his gas tank with hundreds of dollars worth of fuel and then sabotaging the city's wells after he was placed on leave. Snohomish County District Court prosecutors have received the case from police and are reviewing the allegations for possible charges. The city already fired the 42-year-old Duvall man, and paid him a month's salary, about \$3,700, to drop any future legal claims against the city. The city's allegations aren't true, the former employee said. The Herald is withholding the man's name pending charges. The city placed the employee on administrative leave July 1. The next day, another employee discovered two of the city's wells were not operating. Someone turned off all the valves in the pump house, and an alarm also had been shut off, according to a letter from the city. The company that fixed one well said it "appeared to be an act of deliberate sabotage," the letter stated. The city's water levels dipped but that appears to be the only effect, the town's mayor said. The Department of Health was contacted after officials realized the wells had been shut off. City water customers were not informed of the incident.

Source:

<http://www.enterprisewspapers.com/article/20090209/NEWS01/702099938/0/ETPZO NELT>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

28. *February 10, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **Biodefense lab starts inventory of deadly samples.** The biodefense lab at Fort Detrick in Frederick began a thorough search of its freezers yesterday to ensure that it has an accurate inventory of the deadly bacteria, viruses and toxins accumulated there over a period of 40 years, Defense Department officials said. The commander of the U.S. Army Medical Institute of Infectious Diseases, ordered a "stand-down," or pause in ordinary operations, and a complete inventory last week after 20 vials of "biological select agents and toxin" were discovered in a freezer box that was listed as containing only 16 vials. Army officials insisted there are no missing vials of lethal substances and no danger to the public. They said the problem lies with unused, older samples of research materials that were in storage before the institute's records were computerized in 2005. Until then, the inventory of deadly stocks was kept on paper by hand. Accounting for all the material in the institute's freezers and refrigerators could take three months.

Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/nation/bal-te.md.detrack10feb10,0,6479019.story>

29. *February 9, Global Security Newswire* – (New Jersey) **Dead plague-infected mice lost at New Jersey biodefense lab.** A New Jersey biodefense laboratory, which in 2005 lost track of live plague-infested mice, failed to account for two frozen mice also carrying the disease in December, the Star-Ledger reported Saturday. An animal care staffer at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey was unable to account for the mice corpses ahead of their intended sterilization and incineration. "As a matter of protocol in this type of matter, the FBI was called in to investigate and we determined there was no nexus to terrorism or risk to public health," said an FBI spokesman. The

university's Biosafety Level 3 laboratory, the Public Health Research Institute, studies bubonic and pneumonic plagues, along with other infectious diseases. The mice were being used in research on vaccines for plague, which is considered a potential bioterrorism agent, and had been infected with plague bacteria.

Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20090209_6075.php

30. *February 9, Dallas Morning News* – (Texas) **Laptop theft at Parkland Memorial Hospital could imperil employee information.** A laptop computer that may have contained the names, birthdates and Social Security numbers of 9,300 employees of Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas, Texas, was stolen last week, hospital officials acknowledged Monday. The laptop contained no information related to Parkland patients, the officials stressed. And while it was not certain that employee information was on the laptop, the hospital decided to take extra precautions anyway. Employees were notified of the theft Monday by hospital e-mail and advised to monitor their credit profiles or place fraud alerts on their accounts. Workers also were invited to enroll in a free, one-year online credit monitoring service that would detect fraudulent activities. Source: <http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/dn/latestnews/stories/021009dnmetparkland.3574199.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

31. *February 10, Associated Press* – (National) **FAA says hackers accessed personal data in agency computers.** Hackers broke into the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) computer system during the week of February 2-6, accessing the names and Social Security numbers of 45,000 employees and retirees. The agency said in a statement on February 9 that two of the 48 files on the breached computer server contained personal information about employees and retirees who were on the FAA's rolls as of the first week of February 2006. The server that was accessed was not connected to the operation of the air traffic control system and there is no indication those systems have been compromised, the statement said. "These government systems should be the best in the world and apparently they are able to be compromised," said an FAA contracts attorney. "Our information technology systems people need to take a long hard look at themselves and their capabilities. This is malpractice in their world." The FAA statement said the data theft has been reported to "law enforcement authorities," who are investigating. All affected employees will receive letters notifying them of the breach, the statement said. Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_11669846?source=rss
32. *February 9, Navy Times* – (Hawaii) **Grounded cruiser off Hawaii pulled free.** The cruiser Port Royal was pulled early Monday off the rocky shoal where it had run hard aground after the ship was lightened by 600 tons and the high Pacific tide came in. The cruiser was towed to a pier at Naval Station Pearl Harbor, where Navy engineers will assess damage the ship sustained after grinding onto the rock Thursday and then rolling with the waves over the weekend. The cruiser will go into a dry dock next week, said a spokesman for Pacific Fleet. He said the Navy knows the ship's rubber sonar dome was

damaged in the grounding, but he did not know how badly, nor how many other problems the grounding may have caused. To lighten the ship enough to pull it off the rocks, engineers emptied the cruiser's tanks of seawater pumped in to compensate for the fuel oil burned by its engines. The ship also jettisoned its anchors and anchor chains, and offloaded more than 100 crew members. Then the Military Sealift Command salvage ship *Salvor*, the powerful tug *Dove* — which is used to tow the Sea-Based X-Band radar — and seven other Navy and civilian tugs worked at high tide for 40 minutes early Monday to pull the Port Royal off the rocks.

Source: http://www.navytimes.com/news/2009/02/navy_portroyal_free_020909w/

33. *February 7, Houston Chronicle* – (Texas) **Computer virus shuts down Houston Municipal Courts.** Houston shut down part of its municipal court operations on February 6, cancelling hearings and suspending arrests for minor offenses after a computer virus infected hundreds of its machines. City officials said they expected the problems to extend at least through February 9. It was unclear how the virus got into the system, but officials promised a thorough investigation. They could not say when they hoped to have the virus removed from the city network. The disruption cascaded through city departments, leading police to temporarily abandon making some arrests for minor offenses. Officials also briefly disconnected the Houston Emergency Center. Although some emergency communications, such as dispatching, are routed through the center, police experienced no major disruptions, officials said. By the afternoon of February 6, officials said the virus appeared to be contained to 475 of the city's more than 16,000 computers. But the problems it caused grew so severe that city officials made an emergency purchase order for up to \$25,000 to bring in Gray Hat Research, a technology security company that began trying to eradicate it through the early morning hours on February 6. The city's deputy director of information technology said officials suspected the infection was a form of Conficker, the latest super virus that has breached at least 10 million computers worldwide as of late January, including the government health department in New Zealand and defense systems in France.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/headline/metro/6250411.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

34. *February 10, Florida Times-Union* – (Florida). **St. Johns County moving its emergency center.** After more than a decade of vulnerability to hurricane storm surges, St. Johns County's disaster-management operations are moving to higher ground. In about two weeks, a new \$6.3 million emergency operations center that will serve as a nerve center in storms, wildfires and other disasters will open along Interstate 95 west of St. Augustine. Emergency managers will leave their current location in a converted potato chip factory that had sturdy construction but was vulnerable to hurricane storm surges of Category 3 or above. Across Northeast Florida and the rest of the state, communities have been upgrading or building new centers in the wake of lashings by storms in 2004 and 2005. The centers are vital hubs to coordinate emergency responses in disasters as well as information centers for the public.

Source: <http://www.jacksonville.com/news/metro/2009-02->

[09/story/st_johns_county_moving_emergency_center](#)

35. *February 9, Supply and Demand Chain Executive* – (Louisiana) **Louisiana Dept. of Health and Hospitals taps inventory and resource management system.** The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) has tapped a Downers Grove, Illinois-based provider of healthcare IT solutions to improve its emergency response and preparedness initiatives, according to an announcement from UPP Technology. UPP has provided its Inventory and Resource Management System (IRMS) to the Louisiana DHH to manage critical inventories throughout the state's public health facilities and provide real-time information sharing with government and public health personnel statewide. The implementation included three regional warehouses, multiple clinics and central receiving points for delivery of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Strategic National Stockpile. In addition, the state will be using IRMS to streamline the registration, triage and treatment of patients during large-scale events while monitoring vital patient and inventory data to ensure crisis response remains swift and proactive. Source: [http://www.sdcexec.com/web/online/FulfillmentLogistics-News/Louisiana-Dept-of-Health-and-Hospitals-Taps-Inventory-and-Resource-Management-System/29\\$11015](http://www.sdcexec.com/web/online/FulfillmentLogistics-News/Louisiana-Dept-of-Health-and-Hospitals-Taps-Inventory-and-Resource-Management-System/29$11015)

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Information Technology

36. *February 10, Computerworld* – (International) **Verizon expands DoS defenses in 24 countries.** Verizon Business on February 10 announced a global expansion of its WAN-based service to detect and defend against denial-of-service attacks. Verizon Business, a unit of Verizon Communications Inc., said it has added a detection component to its DoS Defense service for mitigating DoS attacks. The monthly price for the service is \$5,500 for both mitigation and detection. No customer on-premises equipment is required, since all the detection and mitigation is managed in the cloud over the Verizon IP network backbone and with several Verizon security centers, including three in the United States, said Verizon's director of product management for DoS Defense. The detection component of DoS Defense works by scanning Internet traffic flow for suspicious activity, while the mitigation component diverts malicious traffic away from a customer's network, he said. A Copenhagen-based Current Analysis Inc. analyst said Verizon is expanding its previous defense service in this offering by guaranteeing customers that it will stop a DoS attack within 15 minutes of an alert. The service does not provide an automatic Web defense, which might be undesirable for some companies. For example, a sudden surge of traffic to a retail Web site might be explained because the company has a special sale going on, the analyst said. Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9127548&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

37. *February 9, DarkReading* – (International) **Hacker lays claim to breaches of two security vendors' Web sites.** A single Romanian hacker claims he has broken through the Web site defenses of two prominent security vendors in an attempt to show

vulnerabilities in their security. Kaspersky, one of the industry's best-known antivirus and security software makers, gave a press conference on February 9 confirming that a Romanian hacker had launched an SQL injection attack on its newly implemented U.S. customer support site, exposing a potentially data-threatening vulnerability in its Web site. The attacker did not publish any sensitive data, even though he could have gained access to it, Kaspersky said. The hacker, known as "unu," claims to have launched a similar SQL injection attack on the Web site of security vendor BitDefender in Portugal. "It seems Kaspersky are not the only ones who need to secure their database. Bitdefender has the same problems," unu said in an online message. As of this posting, BitDefender had not confirmed whether unu's claims were accurate.

Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/security/attacks/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=213401799&subSection=Attacks/breaches>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

Nothing to report

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Commercial Facilities Sector

38. *February 10, Idaho Press-Tribune* – (Idaho) **Police clear Boise Towne Square Mall after “suspicious device” evacuation.** Shortly before midnight February 9, Boise police bomb technicians wrapped up an investigation into five “suspicious devices” found at the Boise Towne Square Mall. Officers said all the devices, all similar in appearance, were hoaxes. The devices were apparently meant to look like viable explosive devices. Boise police bomb sniffing dogs made additional rounds to discover if any further devices were in the mall. Now that the mall area has been deemed safe, Boise Police detectives are also beginning their investigation into who may have put the devices in the popular shopping area, causing an evacuation of about 2,000 people. The first device was found shortly before 7 p.m. near the center court area. Mall security called Boise police, who initially cleared an area of 300 feet around the device and alerted the department's bomb squad to respond, officials said. A second device was found at about 7:30 p.m. At that time, police made the decision to evacuate the entire mall. Boise Police Department, mall security and citizens inside the mall found additional devices. Police are not aware of any threats made to the mall area or elsewhere.

Source: <http://www.idahopress.com/news/?print=true&id=19755>

39. *February 9, WLEX 18 Lexington* – (Kentucky) **Carbon monoxide scare injures four.** Four people were taken to the hospital as a precaution Monday morning after a carbon monoxide scare at a Madison County shopping center. Officials at the scene say that a firefighter was getting physical therapy at one of the businesses located in the shopping center when she noticed an odor. It was then discovered that a generator had been running throughout the weekend inside one of the buildings in the center. Four people were taken to the hospital with what were described as non life-threatening injuries, and the buildings in the center were evacuated until they were aired out.

Source: <http://www.lex18.com/Global/story.asp?S=9812955&nav=EQlp>

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

40. *February 9, FOX News* – (International) **Australian wildfires could fuel ‘forest jihad’ terrorists, experts say.** Firefighters and homeowners aren’t the only ones keenly watching Australia’s massive wildfires, responsible for killing at least 173 people in the southern part of the continent. Terrorism experts suspect Muslim extremists are watching closely, too — and taking note of the devastation. While Australian authorities have revealed no evidence linking the wildfires to extremists, terrorism experts say the large death toll, the huge swath of destruction and the massive financial blow to the country are proving to Islamic terrorists that arson can be a highly effective — and simple — tool of holy war. In November, an extremist Web site called on Muslims to launch a “forest jihad” in Australia, Europe, Russia and the United States. The posting, which quoted an imprisoned al-Qaeda terrorist, said setting forest fires was legal under “eye-for-an-eye” Islamic law. The author of the posting indicated that he was urging terrorists to use sulfuric acid or gasoline to start the fires. Perhaps more troubling, said the executive director of the Investigative Project on Terrorism, is that there is very little authorities can do to prevent terrorists from setting deadly wildfires. The chairman of Executive Action LLC, an international consulting firm, said terrorists could claim responsibility for the Australian inferno even if they had nothing to do with it. “We’re definitely going to see more of calls for these kinds of operations in the future,” an al Qaeda expert said. “The question that American security professionals and first responders will have to wrestle with is whether anyone will be answering these calls.”

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,490306,00.html>

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Dams Sector

41. *February 9, WMGT 41 Macon* – (Georgia) **Macon Levee work complete.** On February 8, the Macon mayor and the Macon Water Authority announced that restoration work on the Macon Levee is complete. The Macon Levee protects against flooding of the Ocmulgee River, which at some spots is less than 25 yards from the embankment. Work to bring it up to federal standards has been an ongoing issue and one they are glad to put

to rest. Reconstruction of the levee was mandated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which told city leaders last year that trees along the levee jeopardized its stability. If the trees fell during a natural disaster, holes from the trees roots could fill with water, creating a piping effect and make the levee more vulnerable to collapse during a flood.

Source:

http://www.wmgt.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=4341&Itemid=103

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